

NAVAL MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
NATIONAL NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER
BETHESDA 14, MARYLAND

NP-19-mve
All-4(1)
Ser: 01039
3 June 1954

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Dr. John Bugher
Division of Biology and Medicine
Atomic Energy Commission
Bldg. T3, 16th & Constitution Avenues
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dr. Bugher:

Pursuant to our recent discussions on the follow-up studies in conjunction with Project 4.1, the following outline is submitted. Rationale for the various proposals is omitted as being self-evident.

It is proposed that the direction of the return groups be alternated between USNRDL and NMRI with personnel for each team to be selected from both institutions jointly. The first return visit would be in late August and after that visit, the approximate date for the second visit would be set.

The following studies will be performed upon the first visit and repeated as appears indicated for each subsequent visit:

1. Complete physical examination and interval history.
2. Hematocrit, WBC, differential, platelet, and bone marrow.
3. Skin biopsies as indicated.
4. Color and BW photographic survey of skin.
5. Eye survey (Sinsky).
6. Survey for deposits of radioisotopes and radiographs of areas of deposits if any found (Looney).
7. Dental growth in children.
8. Check pregnancies and new births.
9. Urinary excretion studies, possible further oral use of EDTA (Cohn-Bond).
10. Fertility studies ?

In addition to the above studies, it is requested that arrangements for trips to Rongelap and Rongerik be arranged preferably by surface craft

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so that a systematic survey and collection of samples can be made for interested laboratories.

For the second trip, it is requested that Dr. W. T. S. Thorp, Veterinary Pathologist of NIH, be included in the roster for a pathologic survey of swine and chickens at Rongelap Atoll and collection of further pathologic specimens for evaluation of the effect of fallout on these species.

Since writing of orders, provision of transportation, housing, etc. at Majuro and elsewhere in the Marshall area will take considerable time to arrange, it is requested that accounting instructions be provided Director, USMRDL and Commanding Officer, NMRI at the earliest possible date after the necessary administrative arrangements have been concluded between AEC and the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, U. S. Navy.

The first group will probably consist of the following personnel:

Dr. V. P. Bond (in charge)
CDR R. A. Conard, MC, USN
LT William Looney, MC, USNR
LTJG Robert Sharp, MSC, USN
Dr. (?) Sinsky
P. K. Schork, HMC, USN
W. M. Gilham, HM2, USN
3 other enlisted men

Representatives of AEC, JTF-7, and AFSWP as suggested by appropriate authority. It is estimated that approximately a total of twelve personnel will be involved. Dr. Bond may wish to revise the above list which he has not had an opportunity to review or discuss with me.

It is assumed that appropriate authority will notify the Marshallese magistrate of the Rongelap group of the coming visits through proper channels. Before leaving Kwajalein, I had explained to the magistrate, health aid, and native nurse that there would be return visits but no mention as to the specific time and place was mentioned.

In making our own plans, it is necessary for us to know where we will be working. Alternating current, 110 volt, is essential as are facilities for sterilization of medical and surgical supplies. If we cannot work at the Hospital on Majuro, it will be necessary to arrange for acquisition of the necessary equipment to provide the above facilities.

An early exchange of funds or the purchase of a phase microscope and a hematocrit centrifuge by AEC for use in the field is desired. If it is

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preferable for the AEC to purchase the equipment and maintain it for use at Majuro, specifications can be provided immediately.

So far as I know, there have been no specific instructions given to the medical staff at Majuro about the necessity and requirements for autopsies on all of the Rongelap natives who may die of any cause unless the Medical Officer at NavStaKwaj has transmitted my instructions to Majuro when the natives were moved from Kwajalein. If there is doubt as to whether Dr. Kirkam and staff are aware of the necessity for routine autopsy and collection of large pieces of bone in addition to all tissue for histologic study, I suggest that appropriate measures be undertaken to assure that a high percent of autopsies are realized.

If there is anything further that I can do to assist in expediting the plans for the first return trip, please call on me at any time.

Sincerely yours,



E. P. CRONKITE
CDR, MC, USN

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Dr. John Bugher
Division of Biology and Medicine
To: Atomic Energy Commission
Bldg. T3, 16th & Constitution Avenues
Washington 25, D. C.
Subj: Classified Material; forwarding of

1. The below listed classified material is forwarded herewith.

| No. of Copies | Classifi- cation | Subject |
|------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | CONFIDENTIAL | Ltr from CDR E.P. Cronkite |

2. It is requested that the original of this form be signed and returned to the Commanding Officer, Naval Medical Research Institute, National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda 14, Md.

THIS LETTER MAY BE DOWNGRADED TO UNCLASSIFIED
UPON REMOVAL OF THE ABOVE MATERIAL

Receipt of the above material is hereby acknowledged on _____
(date received)

Russ T. ...

(Signature)

(Type Name and Title)

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